

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 2675

S/N 09/675067PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Samson X. Huang

Examiner: Fritz Alphonse

Serial No.: 09/675067

Group Art Unit: 2675

Filed: September 28, 2000

Docket No.: 884.326US1

Title: REPAIRABLE MEMORY IN DISPLAY DEVICES

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the final Office Action dated 18 December 2002, the applicant requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, 14-16, and 19 are rejected. Claims 3-8, 11, 13, 17-18, and 20-23 are objected to. None of the claims have been amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

The final Office Action indicated that claims 3-8, 11, 13, and 17-18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The applicant reserves the right to rewrite claims 3-8, 11, 13, and 17-18 in independent form, but believes that the base claims from which they depend are allowable in view of the remarks made herein. Claim 20 is an independent claim, and claims 21-23 depend thereon. The applicant respectfully submits that claims 20-23 are in condition for allowance.

Telephone interviews

The applicant thanks Examiners Alphonse and Saras for the telephone interviews granted on Monday, 3 March 2003, and Wednesday, 12 March 2003, between themselves and the applicant's representative Mr. Mates (Reg. No. 35,271). The substance of this response was discussed during the interviews.

Rejection of Claims Under §102

Claims 1-2, 9-10, 12, and 14 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ferris et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,163,023, Ferris). The applicant respectfully traverses.

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/675067

Filing Date: September 28, 2000

Title: REPAIRABLE MEMORY IN DISPLAY DEVICES

Page 2

Dkt: 884.326US1

Claim 1 recites an apparatus comprising, among other elements, a memory device having a memory device input data bus, and a first repair router having internal routing circuitry to route any of a plurality of non-least significant bits of a first repair router input data bus to a least significant bit of the memory device input data bus.

Ferris relates to replacing a faulty column with a spare column in a memory circuit. Ferris shows routing circuitry 8 in Figure 4. The applicant respectfully submits that the routing circuitry 8 of Ferris only shows connecting a bit position to an adjacent bit position, and does not show routing circuitry to route any of a plurality of non-least significant bits of a first repair router input data bus to a least significant bit of the memory device input data bus as recited in claim 1.

The applicant respectfully submits that Ferris does not show all of the elements recited in claim 1, and that claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Claim 2 is dependent on claim 1, and recites further limitations with respect to claim 1. For reasons analogous to those stated above, and the limitations in the claim, the applicant respectfully submits that Ferris does not show all of the elements recited in claim 2, and that claim 2 is in condition for allowance. Claims 9-10, 12, and 14 recite elements similar to those recited in claim 1. For reasons analogous to those stated above, and the limitations in the claims, the applicant respectfully submits that Ferris does not show all of the elements recited in claims 9-10, 12, and 14, and that claims 9-10, 12, and 14 are in condition for allowance.

Rejection of Claims Under §103

Claims 15-16 and 19 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferris in view of Lindsay (U.S. Patent No. 6,330,693). The applicant respectfully traverses.

The MPEP states the following with regard to rejections under 35 USC § 103:

"To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness ... there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings." MPEP 2143. A Federal Circuit opinion states that the suggestion or motivation to combine references must be found in the prior art. MPEP 2143 citing *In re Vaeck*, 20 USPQ2d 1438, 1442 (Fed. Cir. 1991). In addition, the Federal Circuit, in *In re Lee*, 61 USPQ2d 1430 (Fed. Cir. 2002), requires

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/675067

Filing Date: September 28, 2000

Title: REPAIRABLE MEMORY IN DISPLAY DEVICES

Page 3

Dkt: 884.326US1

that the suggestion or motivation to combine references "be based on objective evidence of record." The Federal Circuit also indicated that the suggestion or motivation must be specific. 61 USPQ2d at 1433.

The final Office Action states that "it would have been obvious to improve upon the testing memory devices as disclosed by Lindsay. Doing so would provide a much more faster repair router circuitry." Final Office Action, page 4. The final Office Action did not identify any prior art evidence as the source of this suggestion for combining Ferris and Lindsay, as is required by *In re Lee*.

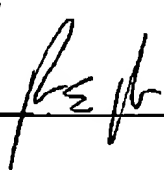
The applicant respectfully submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claims 15-16 and 19 has not been established in the final Office Action, and that claims 15-16 and 19 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

The applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney at 612-373-6973 to discuss any questions which may remain with respect to the present application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,
SAMSON X. HUANG
By his Representatives,
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.
P.O. Box 2938
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612-373-6973

Date 17 March 2003By 
Robert E. Mates
Reg. No. 35,271

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: Box AF, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 17th day of March 2003.

Anne M. Richards

Name

Signature 

SCHWEGMAN ■ LUNDBERG ■ WOESSNER ■ KLUTH

PATENT, TRADEMARK & COPYRIGHT ATTORNEYS

P.O. Box 2938

Minneapolis, MN 55402

Telephone (612) 373-6900

Facsimile (612) 339-3061

March 17, 2003

Time: 1:00 PM
(Minneapolis, Minn.)TO: Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Fritz Alphonse
Patent Examining Corps
Facsimile Center
Washington, D.C. 20231FROM: Robert E. MatesOUR REF: 884.326US1TELEPHONE: (612)373-6973FAX NUMBER (703) 872-9314

* Please deliver to Examiner Fritz Alphonse in Art Unit 2675. *

Document(s) Transmitted: Response Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 (3 pgs.)Total pages of this transmission, including cover letter: 4 pgs

If you do NOT receive all of the pages described above, please telephone us at 612-373-6900, or fax us at 612-339-3061.

In re. Patent Application of: Samson X. HuangExaminer: Fritz AlphonseSerial No.: 09/675,067Group Art Unit: 2675Filed: September 28, 2000Docket No.: 884.326US1Title: REPAIRABLE MEMORY IN DISPLAY DEVICES

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

By: REB

Name: Robert E. Mates

Reg. No.: Reg. No. 35,271

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Anne M. Richards
Anne M. Richards3/17/03
Date of Transmission